

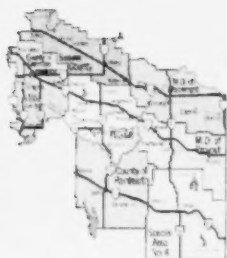
Regional Economic Indicators

Government
of Alberta ■



**Regional Economic Indicators
Battle River Region**

July 2009



BATTLE RIVER REGION

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MAJOR MUNICIPALITIES

According to Statistics Canada census data, the major municipality in the Battle River Region that had the largest per cent increase in population from 2001 to 2006 was Wainwright with an increase of 6.1% or 309 residents. The major municipality that gained the largest number of residents over the same period was Camrose with an increase of 5.0% or 750 residents.

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region

Major Municipalities*	Status	2006 Population	2001 Population	1996 Population
Camrose	City	15,620	14,870	13,728
Camrose No. 22, County of	Municipal District	7,160	7,278	7,613
Beaver County	Municipal District	5,676	5,644	5,659
Wainwright	Town	5,426	5,117	5,079
Wainwright No. 61, M.D. of	Municipal District	3,558	4,231	4,044
Flagstaff County	Municipal District	3,506	3,692	4,015
Provost No. 52, M.D. of	Municipal District	2,547	2,640	2,705
Paintearth No. 18, County of	Municipal District	2,126	2,192	2,316
Provost	Town	2,072	1,980	1,904
Tofield	Town	1,876	1,818	1,726

Source: Statistics Canada Census 1996, 2001, 2006

* Top ten cities/towns and municipalities in region, based on population from latest census year

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region

Major Municipalities	2001 - 2006 (5 Years)		1996 - 2006 (10 Years)	
	% Change	Net Change	% Change	Net Change
Camrose	5.0%	750	13.8%	1,892
Camrose No. 22, County of	-1.6%	-118	-6.0%	-453
Beaver County	0.6%	32	0.3%	17
Wainwright	6.1%	309	6.8%	347
Wainwright No. 61, M.D. of	-15.9%	-673	-12.0%	-486
Flagstaff County	-5.0%	-186	-12.7%	-509
Provost No. 52, M.D. of	-3.5%	-93	-5.8%	-158
Paintearth No. 18, County of	-3.0%	-66	-8.2%	-190
Provost	4.6%	92	8.8%	168
Tofield	3.2%	58	8.7%	150

Source: Statistics Canada Census 1996, 2001, 2006

DEMOGRAPHICS

According to Statistics Canada census data, the Battle River Region's population increased 0.3% from 2001 to 2006, or by 202 residents. This region's population accounts for 2.0% of the province's population.

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region	
Land Area	Battle River
Square Kilometers	2,698.7
% of Provincial Total	0.4
Total Population	Battle River
Population, 2006 Census	65,559
% of Provincial Total	2.0%
Population, 2001 Census	65,357
% of Provincial Total	2.2%
Population, 1996 Census	65,626
% of Provincial Total	2.4%
Population Growth (%), 2001 - 2006	0.3%
Population Growth (%), 1996 - 2006	-0.1%
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006	

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region			
Population Components	2006	2001	1996
	Region		
Age Group: 65+ (%)	16.0	15.9	15.5
Age Group: 0 - 14 (%)	19.5	21.0	22.9
Dependency Ratio ¹	55.0	58.5	62.2
Old Age Dependency Ratio ²	24.8	25.2	25.0
Males, Ages 0 - 14 (%)	19.6	21.3	23.2
Females, Ages 0 - 14 (%)	19.3	20.7	22.5
Males, Ages 15 - 64 (%)	65.5	64.2	62.7
Females, Ages 15 - 64 (%)	63.6	62.1	60.6
Males, Ages 65+ (%)	14.8	14.5	14.0
Females, Ages 65+ (%)	17.2	17.3	16.9
Source: Statistics Canada, Census 1996, 2001, 2006			

Total Population by Age Group, 2006



IMMIGRATION – PERMANENT RESIDENTS

According to Citizenship and Immigration Canada, in 2007, 26 immigrants selected a location in the Battle River Region as their destination of choice on their permanent residence application form.

Please note: This figure does not include temporary foreign workers, students or temporary residents. Also, those that selected a certain province as their destination of choice on their permanent residence application are not required to move to the province indicated. This means that there could potentially be data missing due to immigrants indicating one province as their destination and then actually moving to another.

The annualized percentage change in immigration from 1997 to 2007 for the Battle River Region was -5.5%. The annualized percentage growth from 1997 to 2007 for Alberta was 4.8%. The total change for the Battle River Region was -58.7% (-37) between 2002 and 2007, and -55.2% (-32) between 1997 and 2007.

Economic Indicators: Battle River	
Immigrants, CIC (Permanent Residents) ³	Battle River
As of December 31, 1997	58
% of Province	0.5%
As of December 31, 1998	35
% of Province	0.3%
As of December 31, 1999	35
% of Province	0.3%
As of December 31, 2000	32
% of Province	0.2%
As of December 31, 2001	46
% of Province	0.3%
As of December 31, 2002	63
% of Province	0.4%
As of December 31, 2003	67
% of Province	0.4%
As of December 31, 2004	57
% of Province	0.3%
As of December 31, 2005	55
% of Province	0.3%
As of December 31, 2006	68
% of Province	0.3%
As of December 31, 2007	26
% of Province	0.1%
Annualized Percentage Growth, 1997 - 2007, 10 years⁴	-5.5%
Source: Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) Landing File	

LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

According to Statistics Canada's census data, the Battle River Region's employment rate for the working age population of 15 years and older was 69.6% in 2006 and the participation rate was 72.2%.

Please note: Statistics Canada cautions the reader that the regional labour force data may be subject to large year-to-year fluctuations, especially for the smaller regions. Hence Statistics Canada Census 2001 and 2006 data was used for all labour force indicators in the Battle River Region (see note in below table.)

In 2006, the Battle River Region's employment rate for the 15 to 24 year old age group was 70.1% and the participation rate was 74.5%. In the same year, the unemployment rate for the working age population of 15 years and older was 3.6% and the unemployment rate for the 15 to 24 year old age group was 5.9%. Alberta had the lowest unemployment rate of all provinces in 2006 at 3.4% - well below the national average of 6.3%

Between 2006 and 2007, the number of people employed in Alberta grew by 4.7% or by 88,700. During that same period, the number of people employed grew by about 289,000 or 17.2% in Alberta.

In 2007, Alberta made up 10.3% of Canada's working age population (15+ years), and the province created just under one-quarter or 23.2% of all new jobs in Canada. Alberta created nearly as many new jobs as Ontario (88,700 vs 101,100), which has more than three times the working age population of Alberta.

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region		
Annual Labour Force Characteristics ⁵	2006*	2001*
Population: 15+ (000s)	51.7	50.3
Labour Force: 15+ (000s)	37.3	35.5
Employment: 15+ (000s)	36.0	34.2
Unemployment: 15+ (000s)	1.4	1.4
Participation Rate: 15+ (%)	72.2	70.7
Unemployment Rate: 15+ (%)	3.6	3.8
Employment Rate: 15+ (%)	69.6	68.0
Participation Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	74.5	71.2
Unemployment Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	5.9	7.7
Employment Rate - Age Group: 15 - 24 (%)	70.1	65.8
Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001 and 2006.		

Statistics Canada cautions the reader that the regional labour force data may be subject to large year-to-year fluctuations, especially for the smaller regions, for the following reasons. First, there are no population control totals for special geographies such as these regions. Second, some of the smaller regions have small sample size, leading to greater volatility in the estimates. Third, Statistics Canada periodically redesigns its survey methodology; the latest redesign was done in 2005. Because of these data problems, Census data for 2001 and 2006 were used for all indicators for the smaller regions, and data for these indicators for the other years are not included.

** Census estimate*

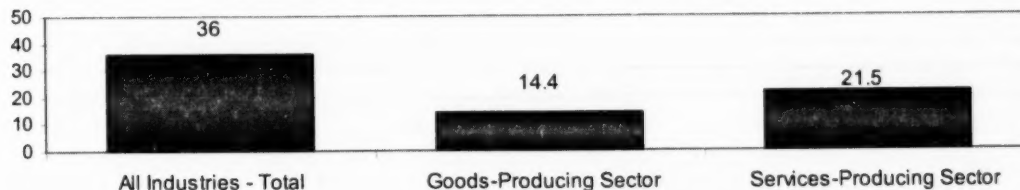
EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

In 2006, according to Statistics Canada's census, the services-producing sector in the Battle River Region accounted for about 60% of the total number employed.

The Agriculture and Forestry industry continued to have the largest number of individuals employed. In the Battle River Region, this industry is dominated by Animal Production and Crop Production. This industry is followed by the Healthcare and Social Assistance, Mining and Oil and Gas, and Retail Trade industries.

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region		
Employment by Industry ⁶	2006	2001
Total Employment – All Industries	36.0	34.2
Goods-Producing Sector	14.4	13.7
Agriculture & Forestry	6.1	7.3
Mining & Oil & Gas	3.5	2.5
Utilities	0.4	0.4
Construction	2.8	2.1
Manufacturing	1.6	1.4
Services-Producing Sector	21.5	20.5
Wholesale Trade	1.2	1.3
Retail Trade	3.4	3.5
Transportation & Warehousing	1.7	1.7
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate & Leasing	1.2	1.2
Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	1.0	1.0
Business, Building & Other Support Services	0.9	0.9
Educational Services	1.9	1.9
Health Care & Social Assistance	4.0	3.4
Information, Culture & Recreation	0.4	0.3
Accommodation & Food Services	1.8	1.7
Other Services	2.0	1.8
Public Administration	1.8	1.6
Source: Statistics Canada Census, 2001 and 2006.		
<i>Statistics Canada cautions the reader that the regional labour force data may be subject to large year-to-year fluctuations, especially for the smaller regions. Hence, Statistics Canada Census 2001 and 2006 data were used for all labour force indicators in the Battle River Region.</i>		

Employment by Industry, Battle River, 2006 (In '000s)



INCOME, TAXFILER

In 2006, the average individual income for all taxfilers for the Battle River Region was \$28,450, a 9.5% increase from 2005. The percentage of taxfilers that reported an individual gross income of \$100,000 and over was 3.6%.

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region			
Individual Income ⁷	2006	2005	2004
Average Individual Income (\$)	28,450	25,990	22,845
Income Range	%		
Negative Claims (Includes \$0)	23.8%	23.2%	24.1%
\$1 - \$20,000	29.6%	31.6%	34.0%
\$20,000 - \$40,000	19.9%	20.6%	20.4%
\$40,000 - \$60,000	12.2%	12.2%	11.1%
\$60,000 - \$80,000	7.4%	6.5%	5.8%
\$80,000 - \$99,999	3.5%	3.0%	2.5%
\$100,000+	3.6%	2.9%	2.0%
Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise			

In 2006, the average couple (defined as married or common law) income for all taxfilers for the Battle River Region was \$84,895, a 10.7% increase from 2005. The percentage of taxfilers that defined themselves as a couple and reported an income of \$100,000 and over was 27.2%.

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region			
Couple Income ⁷	2006	2005	2004
Average Couple Income (\$)	84,895	76,660	69,605
Income Range	%		
Negative Claims (Includes \$0)	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%
\$1 - \$20,000	5.6%	5.9%	7.5%
\$20,000 - \$40,000	17.6%	19.9%	22.3%
\$40,000 - \$60,000	17.4%	19.4%	20.5%
\$60,000 - \$80,000	17.4%	18.1%	18.5%
\$80,000 - \$99,999	14.3%	13.9%	12.9%
\$100,000+	27.2%	22.5%	17.7%
Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise			

INVESTMENT

In 2007, the total building permit value for the Battle River Region increased by 14.9% from 2006 to \$202.9 million, more than double the 10-year average of \$92.9 million. Between 2006 and 2007, the residential building permit value for the region increased by 61.9% to \$138.2 million.

In 2007, the number of total housing starts in the Battle River Region increased by 32.8% from 2006 to 676 units. The 2007 number of starts was 159.0% more than the 10-year average of 261. The number of single family housing starts in the region increased by 32.3% from 2006 to 492 units.

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region			
Building Permit Values and Housing Starts (2007)	2007	2006	2005
Total Building Permit Value (\$000s)	202,850	176,485	69,780
% of Provincial Total	1.3%	1.3%	0.7%
Per Capita Building Permit Value (\$) ⁸	3,094	2,692	1,066
Total Building Permit Value (\$000s), 5-year average (2003 - 2007)	118,880		
Total Building Permit Value (\$000s), 10-year average (1998 - 2007)	92,871		
Commercial Building Permit Value (\$000s)	34,129	70,445	19,576
Commercial % of Total Building Permit Value	16.8%	39.9%	28.1%
% of Provincial Commercial Building Permit Value	0.7%	1.9%	0.8%
Industrial Building Permit Value (\$000s)	18,317	4,104	1,315
Industrial % of Total Building Permit Value	9.0%	2.3%	1.9%
% of Provincial Industrial Building Permit Value	1.9%	0.4%	0.2%
Institutional Building Permit Value (\$000s)	12,208	16,600	2,785
Institutional % of Total Building Permit Value	6.0%	9.4%	4.0%
% of Provincial Institutional Building Permit Value	1.4%	1.6%	0.3%
Residential Building Permit Value (\$000s)	138,196	85,336	46,107
Residential % of Total Building Permit Value	68.1%	48.4%	66.1%
% of Provincial Residential Building Permit Value	1.5%	1.0%	0.8%
Single Family Housing Starts	492	372	229
Single Family Housing Starts, 5-year average (2003 - 2007)	320		
Single Family Housing Starts, 10-year average (1998 - 2007)	261		
Total Housing Starts	676	509	306
Total Housing Starts, 5-year average (2003 - 2007)	426		
Total Housing Starts, 10-year average (1998 - 2007)	365		
Source: Statistics Canada, Compilation by Alberta Finance and Enterprise			

ESTABLISHMENTS WITH EMPLOYEES

In 2007, 65.5% of all business establishments with employees in the Battle River Region were classified in the services-producing sector which includes such industries as Retail Trade, Accommodation and Food Services, and Public Administration.

From 2006 to 2007, there was no change in the total number of establishments with employees in the Battle River Region. Between 2002 and 2007, the number of establishments with employees for all industries in the Battle River Region decreased by two establishments.

From 2006 to 2007, the goods-producing sector in the Battle River Region had a net decrease of 6.0% or 83 establishments. Over the same period, the services-producing sector in the Battle River Region had a net increase of 3.5% or 83 establishments.

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region					
Establishment with Employees ⁹	2007	2006	2002	1 Year % Change	5 Year % Change
Total All Industries	3,788	3,788	3,790	0.0%	-0.1%
Total Goods Industries	1,307	1,390	1,482	-6.0%	-11.8%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	503	599	732	-16.0%	-31.3%
Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	307	301	268	2.0%	14.6%
Utilities	17	13	12	30.8%	41.7%
Construction	378	380	372	-0.5%	1.6%
Manufacturing	102	97	98	5.2%	4.1%
Total Service Industries	2,481	2,398	2,308	3.5%	7.5%
Wholesale Trade	174	170	171	2.4%	1.8%
Retail Trade	402	382	375	5.2%	7.2%
Transportation and Warehousing	270	260	276	3.8%	-2.2%
Information and Cultural Industries	36	39	39	-7.7%	-7.7%
Finance and Insurance	103	88	82	17.0%	25.6%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	83	94	81	-11.7%	2.5%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	279	285	227	-2.1%	22.9%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	33	35	39	-5.7%	-15.4%
Administrative, Waste Management and Remediation	142	141	119	0.7%	19.3%
Educational Services	28	27	30	3.7%	-6.7%
Health Care and Social Assistance	209	197	192	6.1%	8.9%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	48	51	53	-5.9%	-9.4%
Accommodation and Food Services	175	166	186	5.4%	-5.9%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	458	421	394	8.8%	16.2%
Public Administration	41	42	44	-2.4%	-6.8%
Source: 2007 Alberta Business Monitor, Alberta Finance and Enterprise					

SMALL BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS

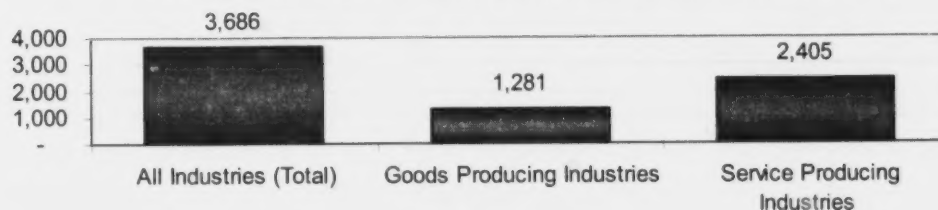
In 2007, 97.3% of all business establishments in the Battle River Region were classified as small business (businesses that have between 1 and 49 employees). The Agriculture industry had the largest number of small businesses, followed by Other Services, Retail Trade and Construction.

From 2006 to 2007, the total number of small business establishments in the Battle River Region declined by 0.3% (a net loss of 10 establishments). From 2002 to 2007, the region had a 0.7% decline in the total number of small business establishments with employees (a net loss of 26 establishments).

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region					
Small Business Establishments¹⁰ (1 - 49 employees)	2007	2006	2002	1 Year % Change	5 Year % Change
Total All Industries	3,686	3,696	3,712	-0.3%	-0.7%
Total Goods Industries	1,281	1,365	1,464	-6.2%	-12.5%
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	502	599	731	-16.2%	-31.3%
Mining and Oil and Gas Extraction	294	285	257	3.2%	14.4%
Utilities	17	13	12	30.8%	41.7%
Construction	372	375	368	-0.8%	1.1%
Manufacturing	96	93	96	3.2%	0.0%
Total Service Industries	2,405	2,331	2,248	3.2%	7.0%
Wholesale Trade	170	168	170	1.2%	0.0%
Retail Trade	389	369	362	5.4%	7.5%
Transportation and Warehousing	267	257	273	3.9%	-2.2%
Information and Cultural Industries	36	39	38	-7.7%	-5.3%
Finance and Insurance	100	86	81	16.3%	23.5%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	83	93	80	-10.8%	3.8%
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	279	282	227	-1.1%	22.9%
Management of Companies and Enterprises	29	33	39	-12.1%	-25.6%
Administrative, Waste Management and Remediation	140	140	118	0.0%	18.6%
Educational Services	25	24	25	4.2%	0.0%
Health Care and Social Assistance	184	177	172	4.0%	7.0%
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	47	50	53	-6.0%	-11.3%
Accommodation and Food Services	167	161	179	3.7%	-6.7%
Other Services (except Public Administration)	456	418	394	9.1%	15.7%
Public Administration	33	34	37	-2.9%	-10.8%

Source: 2007 Alberta Business Monitor, Alberta Finance and Enterprise

Small Business (1 - 49 Employees) Establishment Count, 2007



INVENTORY OF MAJOR PROJECTS

As of December 31, 2008, there were 21 projects in the Battle River Region, which were proposed, planned, under construction or recently completed.

The total value for these 21 projects for the region was \$3.4 billion. The largest projects are in the mining sector.

Please note: 2008 and 2007 can not be compared because some projects are carried over several years and there is only one cost available for the entire project

Economic Indicators: Battle River Region				
Major Construction Projects, As of December 31¹¹				
Industry Sector	Projects		Value (\$millions)	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Biofuels	1	0	\$22.0	\$0.0
Commercial/Retail	0	1	\$0.0	\$5.5
Infrastructure	4	7	\$47.3	\$68.3
Institutional	7	5	\$74.1	\$42.5
Manufacturing	0	1	\$0.0	\$30.0
Mining	2	1	\$2,500.0	\$1,500.0
Oil & Gas	1	1	\$400.0	\$400.0
Other Industrial	2	1	\$49.5	\$19.5
Pipelines	0	1	\$0.0	\$5.2
Power	2	1	\$314.0	\$300.0
Residential	1	1	\$11.3	\$11.3
Tourism/Recreation	1	2	\$6.0	\$11.6
TOTAL	21	22	\$3,424.2	\$2,393.90
Source: Alberta Finance and Enterprise, Inventory of Major Alberta Projects				

1. This inventory lists projects in Alberta, valued at \$5 million or greater, which have recently been completed, are currently under construction, or are proposed to start construction within two years. Not all projects over this threshold are listed due to reasons of confidentiality and/or due to information not being available at time of printing.
2. Project data is obtained from public information sources. Although, where possible, this data has been verified with the project proponent/developer, users of the Inventory may wish to confirm project data with the proponent/developer.
3. The inventory does not break down project expenditures by any given year. The cost of the project is the value of expenditures expected over all phases of project construction, which may span over two or more years.
4. The costs of projects listed in the inventory are estimated values only.

Economic Indicator Definitions

<p>1 Dependency Ratio - The percentage of the population below the age of 15 (child) and over the age of 64 (elderly) divided by the number of adults (15 – 64). This is the population of children and elderly that are dependent on the adult population for economic needs.</p>
<p>2 Old Age Dependency Ratio - The percentage of the population over the age of 64 (elderly) divided by the number of adults (15 - 64). This is the population that is dependent on the adult population for economic needs.</p>
<p>3 Permanent Immigrants - Citizenship and Immigration Canada's (CIC) count of where immigrants are landing within the province of Alberta. This includes spouses, dependents, entrepreneurs, investors, self employed, refugees and family sponsorship. This does not take into account those that land in other Canadian provinces and then move to Alberta.</p>
<p>4 Annualized Percentage Growth, 1997 - 2007, 10 Years (%) - The average annual increase in immigrants over the 10 year period.</p>
<p>5 Labour Force Characteristics - Drawn from Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey (LFS) and Statistics Canada's Census. The LFS is the source of current, monthly, and annual estimates of total employment (including self-employment) and unemployment. Allocating existing LFS respondents to Economic Indicator Regions results in insufficient data for certain regions (e.g. insufficient sample sizes).</p> <p>LABOUR FORCE: Persons who are 15 years or over that were not institutional residents that were either employed or unemployed for the year. Labour Force = Employed + Unemployed.</p> <p>PARTICIPATION RATE: Number of persons from the labour force expressed as a percentage of the population aged 15 years and over. Participation Rate = (Labour Force / Population 15 years and over)*100.</p> <p>UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: Number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force. Unemployment Rate = (Unemployed / Labour Force)*100.</p> <p>EMPLOYMENT RATE: Number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the population 15 years of age and over. Employment Rate = (Employed / Population 15 years and over)*100.</p>
<p>6 Employment by Industry - Based on the LFS or the Census. Industry and occupation codes are assigned using the respondent's job description on the questionnaire. Codes assigned are based on the classifications described in the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS 2002).</p>
<p>7 Income (2006)</p> <p>Individual Income (2006): Gross income for individuals filing income tax in Alberta in 2006.</p> <p>Couple Income (2006): Gross income for people that defined themselves as married or common law when filing the income tax in Alberta in 2006.</p>
<p>8 Per Capita Building Permit Value (\$) - Total value of building permits for a region divided by its population.</p>
<p>9 Establishments with Employees – Business establishments are presented by the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) industry codes. Commercial industries are included as are several in the public sector (schools, universities, hospitals, government offices, churches, etc.)</p>
<p>10 Small Business Establishments - Business establishment with less than 49 employees and at least one employee. This does not include individuals that are self-employed.</p>
<p>11 Major Projects – As of December 2008, a list of major development projects in Alberta that are valued at \$5 million or more that are planned, currently under construction or recently completed. Project data are obtained from public information sources. Updated information is added monthly, the print edition is updated quarterly.</p>

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You can access the Regional Economic Indicators reports and the following related department publications on the Internet at www.albertacanada.com/statpub:

- Alberta's International Merchandise Exports
- Facts on Alberta
- Highlights of the Alberta Economy
- Inventory of Major Alberta Projects
- Monthly Economic Review
- Place-to-Place Price Comparison Survey

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